

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1491 without my signature.

Currently, all investor-owned utility load control programs are voluntary, opt-in programs. Current participants are subject to various agreements with their utilities and receive either a monetary or supply benefit in return.

This bill is overly broad because it allows existing subscribers to opt-out of a program in which they have already voluntarily entered. This is problematic because it may cause a shortfall in utility demand reduction during periods of electricity peak demand. Load control programs are critical to averting rotating outages as they provide near immediate demand relief when the grid is reaching its capacity limits or if there is localized congestion caused by transmission line failure.

For this reason, I am returning this bill without my signature

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger